

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr SCHWARTZENBERG, Mr GLINNE,
Mr B. FRIEDRICH, Mr PISANI, Mrs ROUDY and
Mr LEZZI
on behalf of the Socialist Group

with request for urgent debate
pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure

on the taking of hostages at the United States
Embassy in Teheran

The European Parliament,

- considering the taking of hostages as utterly inadmissible, since it is patently contrary to elementary humanitarian principles and respect of the most fundamental rights of the human individual,
 - whereas respect for the inviolability of diplomatic missions constitutes one of the most imperative obligations under the law of nations, and whereas without such respect there can be no security or progress in international relations,
 - whereas the Iranian state has an obligation to respect Article 22 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961, signed by it on 27 May 1961 and ratified on 3 February 1965, which is in fact nothing other than a consolidation of the most ancient practices and customs, and which stipulates that the premises of diplomatic missions are inviolable, and that the host country has a special obligation to take all appropriate measures to protect the premises of missions and to prevent any disturbance of the peace of the mission or impairment of its dignity,
 - whereas the Iranian authorities' approval of the occupation of the United States Embassy and of the taking of hostages constitutes an exceptionally serious breach of international public law, and whereas such a breach, unequalled in recent years, could mark a return of the international community to chaos, arbitrary action and violence,
 - whereas Parliament is bound to express forcefully the indignation of European public opinion which it represents,
1. Solemnly condemns this exceptionally serious violation of humanitarian principles as well as international law and the Iranian authorities' condoning thereof;
 2. Calls for the immediate release of the hostages and the evacuation of the US Embassy in Teheran;
 3. Asks the Council and the Foreign Ministers of the Nine to forward this resolution immediately to the Iranian authorities.

JUSTIFICATION

Urgent intervention is required to preserve the lives of the one hundred hostages being held and to prevent the rise of violence in the international community.